

What is claimed is:

1. A method of forming a plurality of sleeves wherein each of the sleeves has an upper portion and a lower portion with the lower portion having a printed portion, the method comprising:

providing a first web portion having a plurality of printed portions extending along a longitudinal axis of the first web portion in a staggered, inverted relationship and a plurality of corresponding substantially transparent portions, each of the printed portions of the first web portion having a top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge, and a second side edge, the first and second side edges of each printed portion angled outwardly from the bottom edge to the top edge;

providing a second web portion;

positioning the first web portion on the second web portion; and

sealing and severing the first and second web portions along a plurality of first lines and a plurality of second lines to form a plurality of sleeves wherein each sleeve has an upper portion and a lower portion with the lower portion having a printed portion while the upper portion is free of printing from the printed portions of the first web portion, each of the first lines traversing the printed portions of the first web portion substantially proximate to the first side edges of the printed portions of the first web portion and traversing the substantially transparent portions of the first web portion substantially parallel and proximate to the first side edges of the printed portions of the adjacent printed portion of the first web portion.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein in the step of sealing and severing the first and second web portions, each first line is spaced from an adjacent first line to form a strip of material therebetween.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein each of the second lines traverses each of the printed portions of the first web portion substantially parallel and proximate to the second side edges of the printed portions of the first web portion and traverses the substantially transparent portions of the corresponding substantially transparent portions of the first web portion substantially parallel and proximate to the second side edges of the printed portions of the adjacent printed portion of the first web portion.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein in the step of sealing and severing the first and second web portions, each second line is spaced from an adjacent second line to form a strip of material therebetween.

5. The method of claim 3 wherein in the step of sealing and severing the first and second web portions, each first line is spaced from an adjacent first line to form a strip of material therebetween, and each second line is spaced from an adjacent second line to form a strip of material therebetween.

6. A method of forming a plurality of sleeves wherein each of the sleeves has an upper portion and a lower portion with the lower portion having a printed portion, the method comprising:

providing a first web portion having a plurality of printed portions extending along a longitudinal axis of the first web portion in a staggered, inverted relationship and a plurality of corresponding substantially transparent portions, each of the printed portions of the first web portion having a top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge, and a second side edge, the first and second side edges of each printed portion angled outwardly from the bottom edge to the top edge, the first side edge of each printed portion being coextensive with the first side edge of one of the adjacent printed portions;

providing a second web portion;

positioning the first web portion on the second web portion; and

sealing and severing the first and second web portions along a plurality of first lines and a plurality of second lines to form a plurality of sleeves wherein each sleeve has an upper portion and a lower portion with the lower portion having a printed portion while the upper portion is free of printing from the printed portions of the first web portion, each of the first lines extending along the coextensive first side edges.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the second side edge of each printed portion is coextensive with the second side edge of the adjacent printed portion, and wherein each of the second lines extend along the coextensive second side edges.